Foreign investment in print media

†2296. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that newspaper owners have warned Government about the foreign investment in the field of print media as it will entail the risk of creating instability and disintegration in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Parliamentary Committee of the Ministry has also warned Government about the flaws developing in social, political structure and also about the fact that it is against the foreign investment procedure and has also submitted its report to Government to this effect; and

(d) if so, the details thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) While some newspaper owners have represented for permitting foreign investment in print media, the Indian Newspaper Society has represented against foreign investment in print media.

(c) and (d) The Standing Committee on Information Technology has submitted on 22.3.2002 its report to Parliament on Entry of Foreign Print Media and Foreign Direct Investment in Print Media. Since the report has been tabled in the Parliament, details can be perused from the Report.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.